

**CITY OF SAVANNAH  
ANTI-POVERTY TASK FORCE**

**Meeting Agenda**

Tuesday, June 24, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.  
Bull Street Library Auditorium

- I. Welcome and Introductions - Anne Roise
- II. Housekeeping
  - a. Updated Task Force Contact List
  - b. Venue for Task Force meetings on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday
  - c. Task Force Listserv - John Paul Berlon
- III. Review of last meeting
- IV. Follow up from last meeting
  - a. *Study on Persistent Poverty* Response – Study Work Group
  - b. *Wage Standards and Poverty*, Atlanta Update – Julie Lamy
  - c. Access to Funding for Faith-Based Community – Kathy Keith and Hope Jones
  - d. Faith-Based Community Involvement – Lillian Baptiste
  - e. Best Practices presentations
    - 1) Project SAV – Tina Bonafacio
    - 2) Family Resource Center – Jacqueline Elmore / Ernest Daly
    - 3) City of Dayton – Charlotte Rehmert
    - 4) Other
  - f. Task Force Initiatives
    - 1) Continuum of Care Program for 25 families
    - 2) Informational Network and Material Development
- V. Next Steps

**CITY OF SAVANNAH  
ANTI-POVERTY TASK FORCE**

**Summary of Meeting**

June 24, 2003, 10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.  
Bull Street Library Auditorium

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Attending: Sr. Pat Baber, Lillian Baptiste, John Paul Berlon, Dr. Victoria Bertolozzi, Janice Blunt, Alan Bray, Valerie Brown, Tina Bonifacio, Diane Cantor, Craig Cashman, Ernest Dailey, Yvonne S. Davis, Kathleen Durham, Nicole Fields, Ronetta Gardner, Pastor Jackie Grant, Alex Ikefuna, Natalie Moultrie, Freddie Patrick, Bernard Polite, Charlotte Rehmert, Moira Sheehan, Gena P. Taylor, Keith Vermillion, Ruthann Walsh, Tom Wilson, Anne Roise and Julie Lamy.

**II. Housekeeping**

- a. An updated Task Force contact list was provided by Julie Lamy.
- b. The Task Force agreed to hold meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. The meeting site has been established through November 2003:

July 22	St. Pius Family Resource Center
August 26	Department of Family and Children Services
September 23	St. Mary's Community Center
October 28	Chatham-Savannah Authority for the Homeless
November 25	United Way

Meeting site hosts are encouraged to include a short introduction of their services, a short tour and some printed materials.

- c. John Paul Berlon introduced the process of creating a listserv for the Task Force. Registration for the listserv only requires an email address and would enable the Task Force to receive notifications and reminders by email. John Paul agreed to facilitate the listserv for the Task Force.

**III. Review of Last Meeting**

The May 21 meeting summary was approved as presented.

**IV. Follow-up from Last Meeting**

- a. Study on Persistent Poverty Response  
Dr. Bertolozzi, on behalf of the Sub-committee on Persistent Poverty (Dr. Geiger, Dr. Bertolozzi and Gena Taylor), presented a

draft of the proposed letter the Task Force would send to Senator Zell Miller. She pointed out that the letter requires approval from the Mayor and Alderman. The Task Force agreed that the Georgia Legislature should receive copies of the letter.

b. Wage Standards and Poverty

Julie Lamy provided some background on the Living Wage and Self-Sufficiency Standard and details of what is happening in the City of Atlanta. Anne Roise explained the difference of a living wage versus the self-sufficiency standard and suggested that the Task Force review the material for the next meeting.

Alan Bray provided an overview of the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2003. If passed, the current federal minimum wage will increase to \$6.65. The wage will increase incrementally; \$5.90, 60 days after enactment and to \$6.65 one year later. Tom Wilson suggested that local officials also receive this information. To receive a copy of the handout contact [abray@thempc.org](mailto:abray@thempc.org)

Diane Cantor recommended that the Task Force consult with Jimmy Gibbs, Labor Union Representative, who has done extensive research on the living wage.

c. Access to Funding for Faith-Based Community

Hope Jones presented an overview of the Welfare-to-Work initiative and funding opportunities for faith-based and community-based organizations. The Welfare-to-Work program will end service delivery in June 2003 and the faith-based and community grants will allow grantees to provide similar services offered by the Welfare-to-Work program. Funding information can be found at [www.dol.gov](http://www.dol.gov).

d. Best Practices

1. Project SAV

Tina Bonifacio presented a brief overview of Project SAV which is an initiative funded through the Annie E. Casey Foundation that focuses on strengthening families and improving neighborhoods. Eastside, Cuyler-Brownsville, and the Sandfly/Pinpoint/Montgomery have been selected as pilot neighborhoods for this project. Project SAV currently provides workforce training in healthcare through Savannah Technical College in two of the three neighborhoods. Thirteen residents between the Cuyler-Brownsville and Eastside neighborhoods have graduated this year, 38 are currently enrolled. The next phase of training will focus on manufacturing and preparing

residents to become Certified Manufacturing Specialists (CMS). *DaimlerChrysler will require the CMS certificate for entry level positions.*

2. Family Resource Center

Earnest Dailey briefly described the various services provided by the St. Pius X Family Resource Center. The FRC serves as a one-stop location for Savannah residents. The FRC will host an informational session on job training for DaimlerChrysler on July 19, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.

3. City of Dayton Ohio

Charlotte Rehmert presented an overview of the City of Dayton poverty reduction initiative. The City of Dayton created centralized job centers where employees were able to engage employers and learn how to gain employment. Dayton emphasized working with employers to determine the demand side of employability. Dayton's strategy also involved the use of neighborhood job coaches to provide one-on-one counseling to residents. She agreed to forward more information to the Task Force.

Other

Craig Cashman and Janice Blunt will make presentations on their respective programs during the next meeting.

f. Task Force Initiatives

Julie and Anne discussed a model for a Continuum of Care for 25 families. They stated that in the course of developing the model, they recognized it would be a challenge to build the capacity of faith-based organizations and undertake case management of 25 families within the one-year Task Force work period.

As a result, they presented a second model, which would require organizations already providing case management services to select families for the program and work with them over one-year. These families could be on an existing caseload or new ones could be selected. At the same time, the City's Leadership Development Institute will work to build capacity of faith-based organizations so they can be in position to assume case management/referral services in the future.

The group consensus was to go with the alternate model. Tom Wilson stressed that the Task Force should be clear about its role, the Task Force could not provide intervention, rather, the Task

Force could examine the systems required for effective intervention and make recommendations.

The Task Force agreed that separate sub-committees should be established, one committee would work on marketing/systems issues and the other would develop a model for agency case management.

## **V. Next Steps**

A. The Resource Collaboration and Case Management Systems Sub-committees will meet before the next meeting.

### **Sub-committee Volunteers**

#### **Resource Collaboration Systems**

Janice Blunt  
John Paul Berlon  
Gena Taylor  
Jamal Toure  
Valerie Brown

#### **Case Management**

Craig Cashman  
Ernest Dailey  
Sr. Pat Baber  
Pastor Jackie Grant  
Hope Jones  
Natalie Moultrie  
Susan Bragg

## **VI. Next Meeting**

Tuesday, July 22

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

St. Pius X Family Resource Center – 705 East Anderson Street  
(Anderson and Atlantic)

#### **Attachments:**

1. Wage Standards
2. Atlanta's Living Wage
3. Updated Contact List